

House Resolution 357

By: Representative Benton of the 31st

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mrs. Denise Backus; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Mrs. Denise Backus is widely recognized throughout her community and the
3 state as the personification of excellence in education; and

4 WHEREAS, this highly respected teacher has served with honor and distinction as a
5 professional educator at East Jackson Comprehensive High School where she teaches
6 history; and

7 WHEREAS, in recognition of her outstanding dedication to academic achievement, she has
8 been named East Jackson Comprehensive High School's 2009 STAR Teacher; and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Backus attended Indiana University before transferring to the University
10 of Georgia to earn a bachelor's degree in special education; and

11 WHEREAS, her first position in education was at South Jackson Elementary, where she
12 taught students affected with severe emotional and behavioral issues as part of the Rutland
13 Psychoeducational Program; and

14 WHEREAS, Mrs. Backus later earned a master's degree in special education before moving
15 overseas to work in Okinawa, Japan, on the Kadena Air Base for the Department of Defense;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, upon returning to the United States, Mrs. Backus taught at East Jackson Middle
18 School and then transferred to East Jackson Comprehensive High School; and

19 WHEREAS, she is a shining example of the important impact that the efforts of individual
20 classroom teachers are making on the quality of education received by the children of this

21 state, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that her superlative accomplishments be
22 recognized appropriately.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
24 the members of this body heartily and gratefully commend Mrs. Denise Backus for her
25 sacrifice, foresight, accomplishment, and contributions on behalf of education in Georgia and
26 for the positive influence she has had upon the lives and futures of so many young people in
27 this state and congratulate her upon her being named East Jackson Comprehensive High
28 School's 2009 STAR Teacher.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
30 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mrs. Denise Backus.